Vancouver officials set aside land for course north of city

VANCOUVER, Wash. — A public golf course has wedged its way into city plans tied to marine terminal, heavy industrial and manufacturing, and business and public park development.

The plan designates 64 acres known as Frenchman's Bar for public park development by Clark County and 195 acres north of the flushing channel for city development as a golf course.

The plan calls for the sale of 118 acres in the Vancouver Lakes Lowlands north of the flushing channel for use as wildlife habitat. The plan preserves 600 acres in the same area for recreational and business park development.

Ironically, wildlife, not man, is feared as a possible predator. Commenting on a golf course so near Canada geese habitat, the Vancouver Wildlife League's Don Fish said, "The birds would tear a golf course apart."

Golf wins out over camping

NIAGARA, N.Y. — Golf course, yes; campgrounds, no.

Residents of Wilson have indicated they favor an 18-hole golf course as part of intended revitalization of Wilson Tuscarora State Park, but they are not keen on campgrounds as part of that $10.7 million master plan.

The state has tentatively earmarked $600,000 for the next couple of years of the five-year project.

Floyd (Red) Clark of Wilson has rounded up 400 signatures on a petition for an 18-hole layout. "We want to put the course across the street where others want the campgrounds," he told the *Niagara Gazette*. "A nine-hole course is too small. And we do not need a $750,000 maintenance facility now."

Wilson hasn't had a golf course since the private Tuscarora Park Club of the 1920s and '30s. Now parkland, it was closed in 1941 because of World War II.

Judge rules fired employees must have public hearing

EAST BRUNSWICK, N.J. — Four longtime employees at Tamarack Golf Course suspended because of alleged mismanagement (*Golf Course News*, Nov. 1992) have drawn support from Superior Court Judge Jack L. Lintner.

Lintner ruled that the Middlesex County freeholders' vote to suspend the quartet Nov. 3 violated the state Open Public Meetings Act by not allowing them opportunity to have a public hearing on the disciplinary charges.

The employees — parks superintendent David Campion, clubhouse manager Frank Giampietro, assistant clubhouse manager Charles King and golf professional Edmund Heuser — reportedly have unblemished records with the county ranging from 17 to 22 years.

No further action has been taken on the judge's ruling.

Golf plan would stimulate Va. Beach

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — An 18-hole self-supporting golf course costing $5 million would be prominent in a $93.6 million plan to convert Virginia Beach from a standard seaside resort into one of the nation's premier tourist destinations by 1998.

The cash-strapped City Council may favor the proposal because it requires no property taxes or general tax increase. The projects reportedly would be paid for with a special pool of taxes mostly generated by the city's entertainment and tourist industry.

In addition to the golf course, other proposed projects include a 15,000-seat outdoor theater; expansion of Virginia Marine Science Museum; expansion of Pavilion convention center, and other oceanfront improvements.
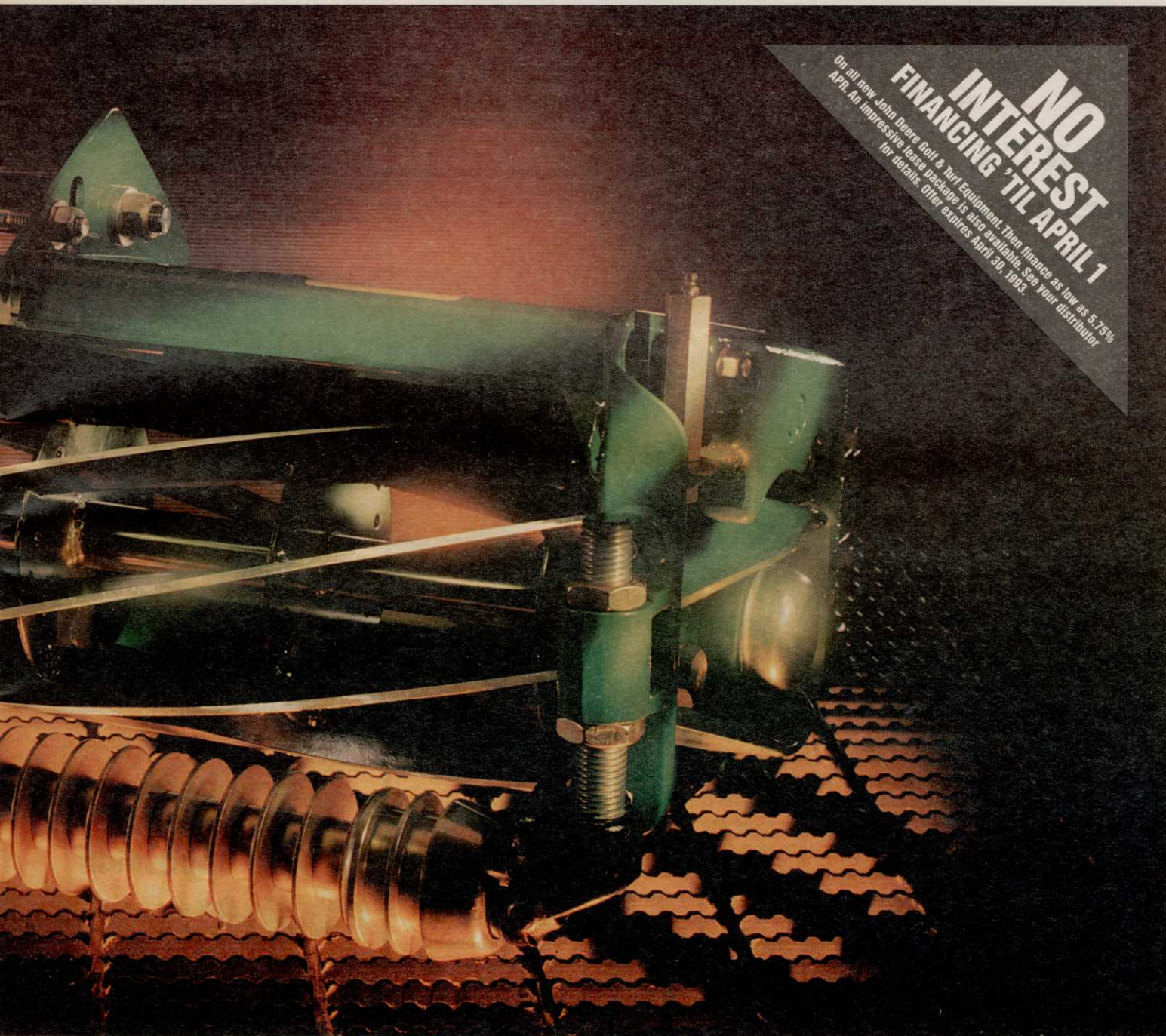
Council can't find project developer

LODI, Calif. — The Lodi City Council earlier this year voted to hire someone to build a nine-hole golf course and driving range on city property on Lower Sacramento Road. There have been no takers.

Parks and recreation officials dispatched detailed project explanation to six developers from as far away as Utah. There were no written replies.

A few said they would be interested in talking directly with council members about building the course.

Councilor Randy Snider, who has opposed using the property as a golf course, favors sports complex development.